(b) if so, the number of meetings held so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Retrenchment of Extra Departmental Employees

1607. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Extra Departmental employees retrenched during the period from January, 1986 to June, 1989;

(b) how many of them have been taken back on duty so far; and

(c) what steps have been taken to ensure security of job to Extra Departmental employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Emoluments of Branch Post Master and Extra Departmental Agents

1608. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what emoluments are being paid to a Branch Post Master for a workload of less than two hours of duty;

(b) in what manner they compare with the emoluments paid to Extra Departmental Agents for a similar workload of less than 2 hours;

(c) whether the emoluments of Extra Departmental Branch Post Masters have been fixed at a monthly rate of Rs. 197/- for one hour per day as recommended by the Extra Departmental Committee;

(d) if so, whether the same rates, as recommended by the Extra Departmental Committee, have also been made applicable to the Extra Departmental Employees other than Branch Post Masters; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The extra Departmental Branch Post Masters are paid a basic allowance on the basis of workload calculated on Point System. This basic allowance ranges between a minimum and a maximum of Rs. 275/- and Rs. 440/- per month depending upon the workload. In addition, they are paid Dearness Allowance, Office Maintenance Allowance, Delivery and Conveyance Allowance, wherever applicable.

(b) The basic allowance of other Extra Departmental Agents is fixed on the basis of workload calculated according to the norms applicable to corresponding categories of departmental employees. The basic allowance for less than 2 hours of workload in respect of other Extra Departmental Agents (other than E.D.S.P. Ms) is Rs. 240/- per month. In addition they get Dearness Allowance and Cycle Allowance, wherever applicable.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Keeping in view the overall interest of Extra-departmental employees, the Government have not accepted be fixation of allowances on hourly wages basis as recommended by he Extra Departmental Committee.

Defence Aircrafts and Helicopters at the Disposal of VIPs

1609. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of defence aircrafts and helicopters which have been

placed at the disposal of the VVIPs and VIPs and how many of these were utilised for the purpose during the year 1988 and 1989, till date;

(b) what is the annual expenditure incurred on the maintenance of these aircrafts;

(c) on what conditions these aircrafts are placed at the disposal of the VVIPs and VIPs;

(d) whether it is a fact that a review of procedure regarding procurement, utilisation and maintenance of these aircrafts have shown financial irregularities, uneconomic use of the aircrafts and violation of rules and norms laid down; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof, stating the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) The Air Headquarters Communication Squadron which provides airlifts for VVIPs and VIPs consists of:

2 Boeings	.. ..	(B-737)
6 AVRAS	.. ..	(HS-748)
6Mi-8s		(Helicopter)

All these aircraft have been used for VVIP/VIP airlifts during 1988 and till date in 1989.

(b) The annual expenditure incurred on the maintenance of these aircraft varies from year to year. In the year 1988, it was Rs. 3.41 crores.

(c) The conditions which govern the use of aircraft by VVIPs/VIPs are laid down in Government orders on the subject issued from time to time.

(d) and (e) These issues have figured in Audit Para No. 4 contained in the CAG's Report for the year 1987-88 (Defence Services—Air Force and Navy) which was laid in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th May, 1989. As per the prescribed procedure, a period of six months is provided to the Ministries for forwarding Action Taken Notes in respect of Audit Paras.

Opening of Medical Colleges in Rajasthan

1610. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Medical Council has formulated certain norms to set up medical colleges in States on the basis of population;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether, in accordance with the norms laid down by the Indian Medical Council, Government propose to set up medical colleges in Rajasthan during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(d) if so, what decision, if any, has been taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) The Indian Medical Council have not formulated any norms for setting up of medical colleges in the States on the basis of population. However, a proposal to amend the Indian Medical Council Act, enabling the Council to consider the request for establishment of new medical colleges on the basis of certain criteria, including the requirement of manpower in the field of practice of medicine is before the Joint Committee of Parliament.

1611. *(Cancelled.)*

Setting up of a Federal Investigation Agency

1612. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have stressed the need for setting up a federal investigating agency in view of the rising rate of inter-State crimes;